

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

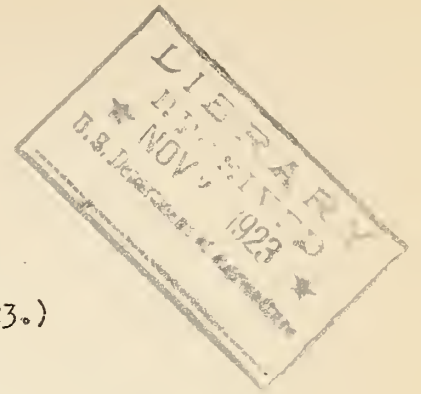
BLISTER RUST NEWS SERVICE.

Clip Sheet No. 6,

October 26,

(Not to be released before ~~September 21~~, 1923.)

(To be used by Editors as Fill-ins.)



Control of the white pine blister rust is practical and inexpensive; all that is required is to destroy the currant and gooseberry bushes within 900 feet of the pines. The cost may vary from 10 cents to \$2.00 per acre. During 1922, there were 472,887 acres in the Northeastern states cleared of these bushes at an average cost of less than 20 cents per acre.

In order to safeguard the white pine, every owner should co-operate with the state and federal governments in this protective work.

White pine stumpage is increasing in value. In 1907, the average price of pine stumpage in central New England was \$5.00 per thousand feet, while in 1923 stumpage for second growth white pine averaged between \$10.00 and \$12.00 per thousand feet. Undoubtedly, this increase in value of pine stumpage will continue, especially since a large number of the Southern mills which now supply a considerable portion of our timber will be closed within ten years.

The control of the white pine blister rust is directing the attention of land owners to the fact that white pine timber is a highly profitable crop. Protection from the rust is inexpensive and effective, thus making it possible to grow white pine in New England in larger quantities than it is being grown today and give the pine owner the advantage of the increased price in stumpage.

White pine is a prolific seeder, the heavy seed-years coming at intervals of from 3 to 7 years with light seed-years intervening. Frequently, at the edge of an old pine woods or in openings in these woods, you see the young seedlings springing up "as thick as hair on a dog's back." The woodlot owner would be abundantly paid if he should take up these young trees where too thick, and set them in a plantation on a worn out part of the farm, or use them to fill in large openings in the pine woods. Recently, in Winchendon, Mass., a small patch of seedling pines on 100 square feet was noticed and 152 seedlings counted on this plot. This is an average of 66,211 seedlings per acre.

At the time of planting the owner should protect his pine from the blister rust by destroying all of the currants and gooseberries within 900 feet of the pine.

